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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
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FOR HODDING CARTER AND JODY POWELL
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, KS, US
SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF TONGSUN PARK AGREEMENT WITH KOREA
REF: STATE 310048 (TOSEC 130036)
FOR YOUR BACKGROUND USE IN RESPONDING TO PRESS QUERIES
ON TONGSUN PARK NEGOTIATIONS, FOLLOWING IS ADVANCE
OF DRAFT STATEMENT WHICH DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
CIVILETTI PLANS TO MAKE AT WASHINGTON PRESS BRIEFING
SCHEDULED FOR 5:00 P.M. FRIDAY. THIS TEXT STILL MAY
UNDERGO SOME CHANGES. AND ACTUAL TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS
CONFERENCE WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO YOU LATER TONIGHT.
BEGIN QUOTE:
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1. I WISH TO INFORM YOU OF THE UNDERSTANDINGS WHICH AT
7:30 P.M. OUR TIME ARE BEING SIGNED IN SEOUL BETWEEN THE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA FOREIGN MINISTER AND UNITED STATES
AMBASSADOR RICHARD SNEIDER PROVIDING FOR COOPERATION
BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING MR. TONGSUN PARK.
YOU HAVE THE TEXT OF THE JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE YOU.
AS YOU WILL NOTE, IT SETS FORTH A PROCESS INVOLVING A
NUMBER OF STAGES.
2. IN ORDER SUCCESSFULLY TO PURSUE OUR INVESTIGATIONS
OF ALLEGED WRONGDOING BY U.S. OFFICIALS AND PERSONS, WE
HAVE FOUND IT ESSENTIAL TO HAVE THE COOPERATION OF
MR. TONGSUN PARK. WE HAVE SOUGHT TWO EQUALLY IMPORTANT
AND RELATED GOALS, AS THE PRESIDENT STATED TO THE
CONGRESS IN HIS REPORT ON THIS SUBJECT NOVEMBER 4. WE
HAVE SOUGHT A FULL, DIRECT, AND CREDIBLE INTERROGATION
OF MR. TONGSUN PARK BY U.S. PROSECUTORS IN ORDER TO
PROMOTE GRAND JURY DELIBERATIONS, AND WE HAVE SOUGHT TO
ENSURE THE FULL AVAILABILITY OF MR. PARK SUBSEQUENTLY
TO APPEAR AS A PROSECUTION WITNESS AT COURT TRIALS WHICH
WE EXPECT TO ENSUE AFTER THE GRAND JURY COMPLETES ITS
WORK. WITHOUT MR. PARK'S COOPERATION AND PARTICIPATION

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IN THIS MANNER, WE CANNOT SUCCESSFULLY PROSECUTE THOSE WHO HAVE VIOLATED U.S. LAWS OR SATISFACTORILY CLEAR THE NAMES OF OTHERS WHO MAY HAVE BEEN UNJUSTLY TAINTED BY THESE SCANDALS.

3. IF IMPLEMENTED SUCCESSFULLY, THE PROCESS SET FORTH IN OUR JOINT UNDERSTANDINGS WITH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA WILL FULLY MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS.

4. FOR EIGHT WEEKS WE HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN ALMOST DAILY INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO

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GOVERNMENTS LEADING TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TONIGHT. I WISH TO COMMEND AMBASSADOR SNEIDER IN SEOUL, WHO HAS EFFECTIVELY AND DILIGENTLY NEGOTIATED THESE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE GUIDANCE OF OUR DEPARTMENTS BACK HERE.

5. IT IS PERHAPS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHY THIS SHOULD HAVE TAKEN SO LONG. THESE ARE COMPLEX MATTERS, SINCE THEY INVOLVE NOT ONLY THE EFFORTS OF TWO GOVERNMENTS TO FIND A SATISFACTORY WAY TO COOPERATE EFFECTIVELY, BUT ALSO THE RIGHTS OF MR. TONGSUN PARK AS A PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL. THUS, PARALLEL TO THE GOVERNMENTAL DISCUSSIONS, WE HAVE NECESSARILY ALSO CARRIED ON A DIALOGUE WITH MR. TONGSUN PARK THROUGH HIS ATTORNEYS. IT HAS BEEN CLEAR THAT MR. PARK'S PERSONAL WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WAS ESSENTIAL TO THE CARRYING OUT OF ARRANGEMENTS SOUGHT MUTUALLY BY OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS IN THIS INSTANCE. THUS AT TIMES INTER-GOVERNMENTAL DISCUSSIONS BECAME CONTINGENT UPON KEEPING MR. PARK PERSONALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THESE MATTERS. I CAN REPORT THAT WE HAVE FULL AND WRITTEN ASSURANCES FROM MR. PARK THAT HE IS INDEED PREPARED TO COOPERATE AND ABIDE BY THE UNDERSTANDINGS YOU HAVE BEFORE YOU.

6. THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TONIGHT IS BUT THE BEGINNING OF A PROCESS, YET IT IS AN IMPORTANT FIRST STEP. WHATEVER THE PAST DIFFERENCES WITH THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT OVER THIS ISSUE, WE NOW HAVE A PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENT FOR PROCEEDING WITH OUR JUDICIAL PROCESSES. WE HAVE APPROACHED THIS MATTER WITH THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT IN A REALISTIC MANNER. BY COOPERATING WITH US, AND FINDING A SOLUTION, THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT HAS ADOPTED A CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE WHICH SHOULD HELP TO RESTORE THE CLOSE AND CONFIDENT RELATIONS WHICH HAVE LONG EXISTED BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

7. PROSECUTION OF THOSE WHO HAVE VIOLATED U.S.

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LAWS IS ONLY ONE ASPECT OF THIS MATTER. IN ADDITION, WE ARE AWARE OF THE IMPORTANT CONCERN WHICH THE CONGRESS HAS IN THESE INVESTIGATIONS RELATING TO THE ETHICAL CONDUCT OF ITS MEMBERS. WITH THE FULL

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CONCURRENCE OF THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT WE WILL BE PROVIDING FULL TRANSCRIPTS OF OUR INVESTIGATIVE TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE AND SENATE ETHICS COMMITTEES. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH THOSE COMMITTEES HOW WE CAN MOST EFFECTIVELY ASSIST FURTHER TO MEET THEIR NEEDS AS THE INVESTIGATION PROCEEDS. I WANT TO EMPHASIZE THAT THIS AGREEMENT DOES NOT PRECLUDE FURTHER ARRANGEMENTS WHICH THE CONGRESS MAY MAKE REGARDING MR. TONGSUN PARK. HOWEVER, WE WILL BE CONSULTING WITH THE RELEVANT COMMITTEES IN ORDER THAT, INSOFAR AS POSSIBLE, THEIR PARALLEL INTERESTS CAN BE ACCOMMODATED WITH OUR NEED TO BRING EFFECTIVE PROSECUTIONS IN COURT.
8. WE ANTICIPATE BEGINNING IMMEDIATELY THE STEPS SET FORTH IN THE JOINT STATEMENT. PROSECUTOR PAUL MICHEL AND I PLAN TO DEPART FOR KOREA ABOUT JANUARY 5 TO CONCLUDE THE MUTUAL PROSECUTION ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE KOREAN MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH TONGSUN PARK, AND CARRY OUT THE INTERROGATION AS DESCRIBED. THE MUTUAL PROSECUTION ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WILL INCORPORATE BY REFERENCE THE JOINT UNDERSTANDINGS ANNOUNCED TODAY, AND WILL FURTHER INCLUDE DETAILS ON THE MECHANICS OF THE INTERROGATION ARRANGEMENTS, TRAVEL DETAILS FOR MR. PARK TO COME HERE AS A WITNESS, ETC. THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND MR. PARK WILL EMBODY THE COMMITMENTS SET FORTH IN THE JOINT STATEMENT REGARDING THE OFFER OF IMMUNITY AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISPOSITION OF THE INDICTMENT NOW PENDING AGAINST HIM, AS WELL AS THE
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RECIPROCAL COMMITMENTS BY MR. PARK TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS JOINT STATEMENT FOR HIS INTERROGATION AND RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES AS A WITNESS.
SINCE THE SUBSTANCE OF THESE MATTERS HAS ALL BEEN CONCLUDED AND IS REPRESENTED BY THE JOINT STATEMENT BEFORE YOU, WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY DELAY IN PROCEEDING EXPEDITIOUSLY TO THE INTERROGATION OF MR. PARK WHEN WE REACH KOREA. ALTOGETHER, I WOULD ANTICIPATE WE WOULD REMAIN THERE ABOUT TWO WEEKS.
9. I WILL BE GLAD TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE REGARDING THE TERMS OF THE UNDERSTANDINGS BEFORE YOU. I OBVIOUSLY CANNOT SPECULATE AT THIS TIME AS TO WHAT INDICTMENTS MAY EMERGE FROM THIS PROCESS, SINCE THAT WILL BE DEPENDENT UPON THE SUBSEQUENT INTERROGATION AND EVALUATION OF ALL OF OUR CORRELATIVE EVIDENCE. IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS REGARDING THE COOPERATION OF THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT IN THIS EFFORT, I WILL DEFER TO MR. GLEYSTEEN, WHO CAN BETTER ANSWER THAT THAN I CAN. END QUOTE. CHRISTOPHER
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